

Why are WV's licenses and ID cards changing?

The new secure Driver's License and Identification (ID) Card Program is a nationwide effort mandated by the federal government to improve the integrity and security of all driver's licenses and ID cards.

The goals of this new program are to reduce identity theft, make it more difficult for criminals to obtain false identities, protect your personal information, and help fight terrorism.

In addition to enhancing the security on all WV licenses and ID cards, you now have the option to choose a license or ID card that is certified as REAL ID compliant for federal use. These cards contain a gold star on the face of the card, indicating that the card meets **full federal requirements** for use at airports and other designated federal facilities across the country.

What do I need to do?

Applicants coming in to apply for, renew, or obtain a duplicate driver's license or ID card will need to provide specific documents. All of the required documents are outlined in detail on the inside of this brochure.

All proof documents provided to DMV will be securely scanned and returned to you.

Licenses & ID Cards



The REAL ID Compliant License

Ages 21 and Over
(FOR FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION)



The Secure WV License

Ages 21 and Over
(NOT FOR FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION)



Licenses and ID cards issued to applicants ages 15 to 17 have a red background.

Red cards have the exact dates the cardholder turns ages 18 and 21.

This sample card is the REAL ID compliant version that is **FOR FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION**.



Licenses and ID cards issued to applicants ages 18 to 20 have a blue background.

Blue cards will have the date the cardholder turns 21 years old listed.

This sample card is the Secure WV License version, that is **NOT FOR FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION**.

Reminder to All Applicants

If you are applying for a WV driver's license and are transferring from another state, you must provide your valid out-of-state license. If your driver's license is lost or stolen, you are responsible for providing a certified driving record from your previous state, no older than 30 days from the date of application.

CONTACT US!

Call us at **1-800-642-9066**, and we will be happy to answer any of your DMV questions.

For general licensing information, visit:
www.dmv.wv.gov/drivers-licenses

For frequently asked questions, visit:
www.dmv.wv.gov/SLFAQ



www.dmv.wv.gov

West Virginia LICENSES & IDENTIFICATION CARDS

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION For a West Virginia Driver's License or ID Card

One Proof of Identity

- An original or certified copy of a United States-issued birth certificate (U.S. Department of State and U.S. Military birth certificates ARE acceptable, hospital birth certificates and Bureau of Census records are NOT acceptable)
- Valid, unexpired U.S. Passport or official U.S. Passport card
- If foreign born, valid, unexpired Department of Homeland Security (DHS) documents

One Proof of Social Security No.

- Original Social Security card
- Original Wage and Tax Statement (W-2) or payroll stub with the applicant's employer name and employer ID number, as well as the applicant's name, address, and Social Security number (a photocopy of a W-2 is not acceptable) (you may use the same W-2 as one proof of WV residency, provided it is not more than 18 months old)
- 1099 form with applicant's full Social Security number and name

Proof of Legal Name Change

DMV MUST be able to establish a link between any name changes - Call 1-800-642-9066 to clarify which proof of name change document(s) you will need to bring in to obtain your license or ID card (you may be required to provide all or some of the following proof below)

- Certified marriage certificate (souvenir documents or Minister's copies are not acceptable)
- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate with amended legal name
- Court Order with legal name/name change
- Certified divorce decree(s) with legal name/name change

Proof of Legal Name Change Continued...

- **If you are age 50 or over**, have satisfied **all other documentation requirements**, hold a current WV driver's license or ID card in the name being verified, and have gone through at least one WV license renewal cycle, a signed statement may be submitted in lieu of the name change document such as the marriage certificate or divorce decree

Two Proofs of WV Residency

PO Box addresses cannot be used as proof of Residency

List B (Any two from this list are eligible)

- WV utility bills (not more than 60 days old)
- Tax records with a WV street address
- WV mortgage documents, WV homeowner insurance documents for a WV residence, or proof of WV home ownership
- WV W-2 form that is not more than 18 months old (you may use the same W-2 as your proof of Social Security number)
- WV Weapons Permit
- A valid WV vehicle registration card
- WV Voter's Registration card
- WV Driver's Eligibility Certificate (School Enrollment Form) if applicant is under age 18 with the applicant's WV street address
- WV Homestead Tax exemption
- Proof of WV public assistance
- Residential rental or lease agreement
- WV DMV Affidavit of West Virginia Residency

List C (Only one item from this list is eligible, the other proof must come from LIST B)

- College admissions letter that shows the applicant is an in-state resident
- Letter from a WV homeless shelter, hotel, senior citizens home, rehabilitation center, nursing home, children's home, orphanage, shelter, battered women's shelter, or Job Corps, including the facility's physical address, that explains that the applicant is a resident at their facility (letterhead is preferred, but not required)
- Pay check stub from any WV employer that shows a current physical address (cannot be hand written)
- Social Security benefits letter
- WV Professional License
- United States Selective Service card
- WV Dealer temporary registration card
- Letter from the applicant's employer stating that all utility and house arrangements are provided by the employer
- Letter from the US Post Office that shows a new, physical, WV address assigned by the Post Office for the applicant
- WV bank statement, auto insurance card, or hunting license
- License plate or Driver's License Renewal form
- 911 letter

PLANNING CHECKLIST

ALL APPLICANTS

- **ONE proof of identity**
- **ONE proof of Social Security number**
- **TWO proofs of WV residency**
- **Proof(s) of legal name change** (If applicable. You may need more than one.)
- **I am aware I must pass the vision screening if applying for or renewing a driver's license.**

IF APPLYING FOR A CDL

CLASS A, B, OR C YOU MUST ALSO BRING:

- **A valid DOT Medical Certificate card** (CDL Medical Card)
- **A valid DOT long form physical for all first-time applicants and out-of-state transfers** This must be provided in addition to the CDL Medical Card.

IF APPLYING FOR A GDL

YOU MUST ALSO BRING:

- **A Driver Eligibility Certificate** This form is provided by the WV county school board office. If this form has the applicant's physical address it may be used as their proof of WV residency. If it has a PO Box instead, the applicant's parent or legal guardian must complete the Affidavit of WV Residency form and provide two proofs of WV residency in their name.
- **Level 1 Applicants** A parent or legal guardian's signature is required on the license application.
- **Level 2 Applicants** A completed and signed 50 Hour Certification (GDL-10) or Certificate of Completion of an approved driver's education course from their WV county school board office is required.